

Keeping in Touch

July 1984

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304, Los Angeles, CA 90020-9990 (213) 464-5100

JUNE

TOP 20 TITHES
as of June 15th
(In Amount Given)

MCC Dallas - Dallas, TX	\$ 1841.04
MCC of the Resurrection - Houston, TX	1285.01
MCC in the Valley	790.52
MCC Long Beach - Long Beach, CA	719.97
Church of The Holy Spirit MCC - Ft. Ldle, FL	678.61
MCC Los Angeles - Los Angeles, CA	607.55
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth - Ft. Worth, TX	570.72
Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Ana, CA	565.34
MCC San Francisco - San Francisco, CA	516.58
MCC Washington - Washington, DC	509.30
MCC of Greater St. Louis - St. Louis, MO	457.06
MCC Seattle - Seattle, WA	444.03
MCC San Jose - San Jose, CA	427.08
MCC Portland - Portland, OR	404.33
MCC New York - New York, NY	376.22
MCC San Antonio - San Antonio, TX	368.78
Casa De Cristo MCC - Phoenix, AZ	340.91
All God's Children MCC - Minneapolis, MN	339.27
MCC Tampa - Tampa, FL	324.40
MCC of Greater Kansas City - Kansas City, MO	317.30

JUNE

TOP 20 TITHES
Received by June 15
(Per Capita)

Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Ana, CA	\$ 25.02
MCC Illiano - Quincy, IL	19.04
MCC of Acadiana - Lafayette, LA	18.92
MCC of Johnson County - Olathe, KS	17.98
MCC San Jose - San Jose, CA	17.65
MCC of The San Gabriel Valley - La Puente, CA	17.57
MCC of The Ozarks - Fayetteville, AR	17.19
MCC of Birmingham - Birmingham, AL	17.02
MCC Long Beach - Long Beach, CA	16.22
MCC Charlotte - Charlotte, NC	16.05
MCC of Greater St. Louis - St. Louis, MO	15.87
Church of The Holy Spirit MCC - Ft. Ldle, FL	15.22
New Life MCC - Oakland, CA	15.00
MCC of Greater Kansas City - Kansas City, MO	14.76
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth - Ft. Worth, TX	14.27
MCC Ocean of Life - Costa Mesa, CA	13.78
MCC Mid-Cities - Arlington, TX	13.55
Christ MCC - Miami, FL	13.32
MCC of Gainesville - Gainesville, FL	13.29
Trinity MCC - New York, NY	13.29
New Hope MCC - Kingman, AZ	12.90

*** PRAISES ***

** Samaritan's "Orientation to MCC Pastoring" program (affectionately known as "Boot Camp") has gotten off to a great start in L.A. and Detroit!

** MCC Detroit is in the process of purchasing a building!

** MCC Washington D.C. is also about to close on a new building!

** Rev. Bob Arthur is recovering from a serious tooth infection that necessitated a tracheotomy - he is at home after three weeks in the hospital.

** Rev. Jean White reports that the all-European Gay and Lesbian Christian Conference in Amsterdam, Holland was an enormous success, attended by 65 people from 9 countries. UFMCC TODAY in Dutch (translated by Rev. Johannes diMaria Kuiper and designed by Paula Schoenwether) was a big hit! The doors opened for several possible MCC congregations in other countries in Europe! Keep them in your prayers!

** Clarke Friesen was elected South Central District Coordinator for a four year term, and was hired full-time (\$24,000 per year) as of July 1st. Congratulations Clarke! The South Central District also gave SLACCC a grant of \$1,200., and Samartian \$500..

** MCC (ICM) Mexico City has found a building to purchase - a theater that seats over 300 persons -- stay tuned for more details!

** The National Council of Churches appointed a 3 person committee to work with UFMCC to design a process for continuing dialogue between us and the National Council, for presentation to the November Governing Board meeting.

** Rev. Nancy Wilson has been appointed a volunteer chaplain to the Gay and Lesbian community by the L.A. County Sheriff's Department.

** Rev. Mary Merriman, from Good News MCC in Lakeland, Florida, is representing UFMCC as a speaker at the National NOW Conference in Miami Florida.

** Praise God for the life of Dr. Calvin Turley, President of the Church of the New Jerusalem (Swedenborgian.) Dr. Turley died recently. He was personally supportive of MCC's application to the National Council, had been a pastoral counselor at the Homophile Community Health Service in Boston for many years, and an important friend to the Gay and Lesbian community of Boston and of UFMCC.

** Congratulations to Mr. Jack Bertz ("Uncle Jack" as he is lovingly called), long time lay administrator (chaplain, friend, etc.!) at MCC in the Valley. Jack retired this month from his position at the Valley church in Los Angeles County, and is moving to Hawaii. God bless you, "Uncle Jack" you will be missed greatly.

**** Congratulations** to Mr. Claude Launer, for his appointment as Lay Administrator of MCC in the Valley. May God richly bless you as God has blessed "Uncle Jack" in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ!!

P.S. - Please call in or write in your praises - we know there are lots more out there! Keep in mind, this news letter "KEEPING IN TOUCH" is one of many ways you can KEEPing IN TOUCH. May God richly bless you is our prayer.

OLD TIME GOSPEL HOUR Update

We have learned from one station that a letter has gone out over the signature of Falwell's attorney to all of the syndicated stations that air the program that they do not have to grant UFMCC time to respond.

Some stations seem to have ignored this letter because we are still receiving opportunities to get our message out.

The Rev. June Norris was on two stations in North Carolina. One station gave her time to speak before Falwell's Sunday morning broadcast. The other stations granted her two spot announcements that will air 42 times over a two week period.

The Reverends Chuck Larsen, Tom Jordan and David Pelletier will be representing UFMCC on stations in their areas.

The most surprised Station Manager was the one who said, "I suppose you have a copy of the syndication list." Our reply was, "No, we are only contacting those stations where we have received information from our membership." We were able to get time on that station!

1985 General Conference Update

Anthony Villareal, the Conference Coordinator for the 1985 UFMCC General Conference in Sacramento, Calif. along with Ravi Verma, Director of Administration visited Sacramento to meet with the Hotel & Convention staff, and the Board & Congregation of River of Life MCC in Sacramento, CA. Anthony is in charge of the complete meeting from pre-planning and budget preparation to publicity & staffing. Rev. Elect Danny Ray has been appointed as the 'worship & music' Director for the conference.

Anthony is currently a freelance public relations representatives and was formerly employed with one of the major television networks where they coordinated meetings and conferences in Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the rest of the United States.

Anthony Villarreal & Danny Ray will be travelling again to Sacramento to do further planning for the conference. Anthony will also be taking the Elders for a tour of the conference facilities during the Elders Meeting in the first week of July '84.

The Conference will be held from July 1984. 1985. The Conference has promises of being one of the most exciting ones that UFMCC has had. So mark your calendars and start planning to be there!!

Conference for Gays & Lesbians of Color

The UFMCC's Second International Third World Christian Conference will be held on Oct. 5th through the 7th 1984 in New York City, N.Y. The theme of this conference comes from Isaiah 53:12 "You shall indeed go out in joy and be led forth in peace." The conference is open especially to Lesbians and Gays of Color (Blacks, Native Americans, Hispanics and Asians). However, it is a Christian Conference and all persons are welcome.

A brochure giving the highlights of the Conference, including registration information is being sent to all the churches. For more information contact Rev. Renee McCoy c/o Harlem Metropolitan Community Church, P.O. Box 574, New York, NY 10030 or the Fellowship offices.

Upcoming Birthday Celebration

"REFERENDUM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY" will be the theme for the Universal Fellowship's 16th Birthday celebration October 7, 1984 - An exciting program, including audio and visual materials will be sent to every local church to enhance your celebration.

Samaritan News

The Orientation Programs both at MCC Los Angeles and MCC Detroit have had a wonderful beginning. Initial student and faculty evaluations indicate that both are enjoying the program very much. While the schedule is very intense and both students and faculty are challenged by it, the benefits have been tremendous. Further program updates will be forthcoming. Please keep this program and the participants in your prayers.
